

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Crawford Power Plant Demolition - Removal Polrep
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #23
Final
Crawford Power Plant Demolition

Chicago, IL
Latitude: 41.8297531 Longitude: -87.7218045

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From: Andrew Maguire, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 9/2/2020
Reporting Period: 5/8/2020-9/2/2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5M1	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/13/2020	Start Date:	4/13/2020
Demob Date:	5/8/2020	Completion Date:	9/2/2020
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

On Saturday, April 11, 2020, the abandoned Crawford Power Plant smokestack located in South Lawndale Neighborhood, Chicago, Cook County, IL was demolished sending a cloud of dust off-site that blanketed the residents in the area of Little Village. On Monday, April 13, 2020, The City of Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) requested EPA assistance with monitoring the ambient air for particulates.

1.1.2.1 Location

3501 S. Pulaski Road
Chicago, IL 60623

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Potentially contaminated fugitive particulates released to the environment, including a nearby residential neighborhood, due to a demolition of a smokestack at a former coal fired power plant.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

CDPH collected samples of building panels, not from the demolished smoke stack, found on the ground on site on 4/14/2020. The samples were analyzed for PCBs and asbestos. Both asbestos (10-15% chrysotile) and PCBs (Aroclor 1260 @ 9.1 ppm) were found in the material. The panels are fully intact and non-friable, meaning that it would be highly unlikely or impossible for any of the material to become airborne and blow into the surrounding neighborhood.

CDPH also did some air, wipe and soil testing after the demolition. The data can be found on their website:

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/hilco/home/community-information.html>

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Older reporting period's operations are summarized in previous POLREPs

5/8/2020 - 9/2/2020

EPA completed collection of real-time particulate data and co-located samples on 5/5/2020. CDPH began collecting the data and samples on 5/6/2020.

From April 19 thru May 5, U.S. EPA also collected daily air samples set in the same place as the four fence-line monitors. Samples were collected using standard methods and sent to a laboratory to determine if they contain [asbestos](#), metals and [polychlorinated biphenyls \(PCB\)](#). All samples were sent to a laboratory for analysis.

On 8/16/2020, EPA received the final data validation report for the samples collected. All results for heavy metals, asbestos and PCBs throughout the project were either below laboratory method reporting limits or below site action levels. The final EPA report, once completed, will be made available at response.epa.gov/CrawfordPlantDemo.

For many contaminants, EPA sets [regional screening levels \(RSL\)](#) that are considered by the agency to be protective of humans (including sensitive groups) over a lifetime. All final validated results did not detect any concentration of metals that exceeded an RSL. All final validated results did not detect any concentration of PCBs that exceeded an RSL.

Similarly, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) sets a [Permissible Exposure Limits \(PEL\) for asbestos](#). All final validated results showed no asbestos in air above the OSHA PEL.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See previous POLREPs for descriptions of prior actions.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The City of Chicago has identified HILCO as the PRP and is the lead for enforcement at this time.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Regional Metrics

Miles of river systems cleaned
and/or restored N/A

This is an Integrated River Assessment. The numbers
should overlap.

Cubic yards of contaminated
sediments removed and/or
capped N/A

Gallons of oil/water recovered N/A

Acres of soil/sediment cleaned
up in floodplains and riverbanks N/A

Stand Alone Assessment

Number of contaminated
residential yards cleaned up 0

Number of workers on site 4

Contaminant(s) of Concern

Lead, Arsenic, PCB, Asbestos

Oil Response Tracking

Estimated volume

Initial amount released N/A

Final amount collected N/A

FPN Ceiling Amount N/A

CANAPS Info

FPN Number N/A

Body of Water affected N/A

Administrative and Logistical Factors (Place X where applicable)

Precedent-Setting HQ Consultations (e.g.,
fracking, asbestos)

x Community challenges or high
involvement

Radiological

More than one PRP

Endangered Species Act /
Essential Fish Habitat issues

Explosives

AOC

Historic preservation issues x

Residential impacts

UAO

NPL site

Relocation

DOJ involved

Remote location

Drinking water impacted

Criminal Charges Have Been Filed*

Extreme weather or abnormal
field season

Environmental justice

Tribal consultation or coordination or other issues x

Congressional involvement x

High media interest

Statutory Exemption for \$2 Million

Statutory Exemption for 1 Year

Active fire present

Hazmat Entry Conducted – Level A, B or C

Incident or Unified Command
established

Actual air release (not
threatened)

Green Metrics

Metric

Amount

Units

Diesel Fuel Used

0

gallons

Unleaded Fuel Used

10

gallons

Alternative/E-85 Fuel Used

0

gallons

Electricity from electric company

0

kWh

Electric Company Name and Account #

Electricity from sources other than the electric company

kWh

Solid waste reused

0

Solid waste recycled	0	lbs
Water Used	0	gallons

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

None

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

None, EPA personnel and equipment have demobilized from the site.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

CDPH is the lead on the project.

2.2.2 Issues

Due to Covid-19 concerns, increased awareness and adherence to social distancing is being practiced. Increased sanitation and distancing are occurring, including personnel wearing masks when interacting with each other on site. These special provisions, among others, are documented in the site specific Health and Safety Plan.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

See table below for details

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$80,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	25.00%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$80,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	25.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSC is serving in this role

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

OSC is serving in this role

2.5.3 Information Officer

Chicago is the lead PIO, EPA has a PIO available to coordinate if necessary.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

City of Chicago is the lead, EPA is providing operational support for air monitoring

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Illinois EPA, Chicago Department of Buildings

4. Personnel On Site

EPA - 0

START -0

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

response.epa.gov/CrawfordPlantDemo

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/hilco/home/community-information.html>

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The project is complete and this is the Final POLREP.

7. Situational Reference Materials

As no real-time data is being collected by EPA the data dashboard has been taken down. For current situational status please contact CDPH.

